4/17/85

U5680-1

Vol. 54, No. 1

January 1985

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

CBER

COLLEGE OF COMMERCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

alabama business

The Outlook for the Alabama Economy
Carl E. Ferguson, Jr., and Dana Stone ..... p. 2

General Business Indicators for Alabama ..... p. 3

CBER Staff Appointments Announced ..... p. 7

Alabama Business (ISSN 0002-4163), University, Alabama: Issued monthly without charge to businessmen and other observers interested in the Alabama economy.

The Outlook for the Alabama Economy

By

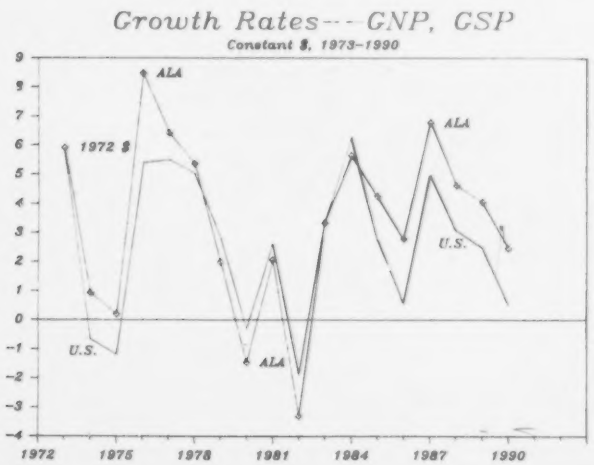
Carl E. Ferguson, Jr., and Dana Stone

Editor's Note: The following article, excerpted from ALABAMA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 1985 to be published by Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Office of State Planning and Federal Programs, summarizes the outlook for the Alabama economy through 1990. Findings are based upon the most recent forecast of the Alabama Econometric Model, developed and maintained by the Center for Business and Economic Research. Readers will be notified once the publication becomes available.

The recession of 1980-82 left its mark on Alabama. Manufacturing alone lost over 39,000 jobs. And, while over the ten-year period 1974 through 1983 Alabama real Gross State Product (the total inflation-adjusted value of all goods and services produced in the state) grew by 24.9 percent, manufacturing grew by only 12.9 percent. As a result, industries such as primary metals, once the backbone of the Alabama economy, are being displaced by other manufacturing industries, such as electrical machinery, as well as by nonmanufacturing industries like trade and communications.

Figure 1 highlights the recent and forecasted growth behavior of Alabama real Gross State Product and real Gross National Product. It is interesting to compare the Alabama economy's behavior during the 1974-75 recession against the 1980-82 recession. Over the two-year period 1974 and 1975, Alabama did not suffer nearly as badly as the U.S. and experienced a much stronger recovery. GNP experienced growth rate lows of -0.6 percent and -1.2 percent, while Alabama GSP held its own with modest growth of 0.9 percent and 0.2 percent. However, the double-dip recession of 1980-82 found Alabama much worse off with real output declines of -1.5 percent and -3.3 percent, compared to declines of -0.3 percent and -1.9 percent for the U.S. While there is no one reason, a major factor can be found in the nature of Alabama's industries.

Figure 1

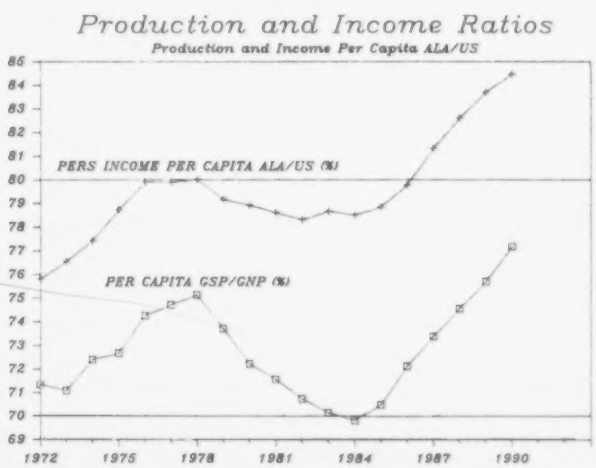


Alabama traditionally has produced many of the raw and intermediate materials for finished durable goods and construction materials. Since the expansion of credit buying, the purchase of many of these big-ticket consumer items has become quite sensitive to the *monthly payment* as opposed to the *list price*. And, of course, business and industry depend heavily on outside financing for capital construction and inventory. When interest rates rose to unprecedented heights during 1980 through 1982, consumer and capital spending was shut down and the Alabama economy along with it.

Alabama has the natural resources, geographic location, and foundations of an infrastructure that will allow the state's economy to grow at vigorous rates. The current forecast calls for Alabama to return to the robust growth of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Like a young company in a growth market, Alabama has room to grow. Many Alabama cities are at the takeoff point, ready to become major growth centers in the South and the nation. And, given local and state support, many other communities and regions in the state can also achieve steady growth through the balance of the decade.

Per capita Alabama Gross State Product is projected to grow faster than per capita Gross National Product, rising from an estimated 70.7 percent of U.S. GNP in 1984 to 78.3 percent in 1990. Figure 2 illustrates the per capita GSP/GNP ratio, along with the per capita personal income ratio of Alabama/U.S. through 1990.

Figure 2



Upon inspection, such an increase in Alabama personal income and output is not unprecedented. Alabama has demonstrated the capacity to grow. The natural and human resources are in place.

To demonstrate this capacity, Alabama real Gross State Product grew 24 percent over the four-year period 1975 to 1979, an average of 6 percent per year. The current forecast calls for Alabama to sustain GSP growth of 5.4 percent per year for the balance of the decade. Should the state's economy sustain such a growth rate, per capita personal income can be expected to rise from an estimated 78.5 percent of U.S. per capita personal income in 1984 to 84.5 percent in 1990.

Employment

Employment is expected to grow 10.2 percent over the six-year period 1984 to 1990. This growth is not expected to come exclusively from manufacturing. Rather, consistent with projected growth in real output, employment increases will occur largely in the service industries; finance, insurance, and real estate; trade; and com-

(Continued on Page 8)

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

Type of Activity	Annual		1983				1984								
	1982	1983	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] (1,000 net tons)	25,869	23,071	1,937	2,150	2,044	1,849	2,181	2,434	2,518	2,211	2,327	2,377	2,056	2,590	2,418
Natural gas production (1,000,000 cu. ft.)	133,892	126,576	9,028	10,409	10,453	9,407	10,962	11,264	10,750	11,386	11,920	9,984	10,667	11,898	11,371
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs.)	320,808	360,820	31,394	30,597	29,370	28,336	28,600	31,542	29,964	27,531	30,038	26,733	23,408	29,670	27,820
Crude oil and condensate production[2] (1,000 barrels)	20,011	18,708	1,435	1,522	1,569	1,499	1,624	1,578	1,590	1,533	1,673	1,583	1,752	1,680	1,673
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes (1,000,000 kwh)	21,431	21,020	1,892	1,818	1,799	1,698	1,827	1,958	1,919	1,983	2,005	2,104	2,039	2,146	2,135
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	5,419	6,166	511	559	510	479	532	526	580	571	525	561	534	559	540
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] ($1,000)	2,011,200	2,763,700	235,100	272,000	290,900	214,400	228,400	159,700	244,600	174,300	571,700	231,400	210,600	383,400	202,200
Residential	847,200	1,286,500	155,300	136,900	96,700	93,600	98,300	82,200	125,100	104,500	117,500	114,100	105,900	163,200	96,800
Nonresidential	660,000	1,025,800	45,500	107,800	162,600	88,600	112,300	36,300	66,600	47,500	92,500	71,300	60,700	137,900	43,900
Public works and utilities	504,000	451,300	34,300	27,300	31,500	32,200	17,700	41,300	52,900	22,300	361,300	46,400	43,900	84,200	59,300
Cement consumption (1,000 net tons)	928	1,086	101	108	92	67	68	87	108	100	112	117	102	110	105
FINANCE															
Savings in savings and loan associations[4] ($1,000,000)	4,598	5,263	5,158	5,191	5,204	5,263	5,289	5,323	5,389	5,387	5,416	5,492	5,544	5,606	5,681
Tax collections ($1,000)															
Total	2,112,332	2,288,165	219,553	186,326	221,579	154,139	205,929	202,747	264,652	234,338	246,438	198,192	195,871	215,569	241,633
Franchise	52,016	52,214	7,300	4,430	1,980	507	302	1,153	28,642	5,879	1,275	2,504	9,422	2,315	6,357
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	197,894	199,587	17,874	16,536	16,469	16,044	18,417	16,305	15,305	17,523	17,585	17,564	17,504	17,752	18,217
Income	765,160	815,838	81,667	38,160	83,559	53,073	49,125	95,328	130,393	82,889	130,465	81,367	42,840	90,776	92,998
Motor fuels	41,505	45,027	3,383	4,189	5,673	3,906	3,415	4,409	3,448	3,899	4,703	3,735	3,580	5,287	3,166
Oil/gas privilege	36,891	89,645	5,168	5,106	34,115	4,424	5,742	5,924	5,475	5,164	5,571	5,436	5,605	9,662	5,294
Oil/gas production	18,510	17,290	1,331	1,314	1,339	1,146	1,465	1,565	1,442	1,384	1,480	1,437	1,478	1,322	1,409
Sales	562,208	609,132	51,526	51,888	53,500	49,930	67,569	49,655	50,142	55,808	56,985	58,145	57,514	56,957	58,767
2.2% Gross receipts	44,104	46,185	3,548	10,134	63	6	13,504	152	9	13,448	210	1	13,723	.....	15
TVA electric	35,999	31,290	2,911	2,867	.....	2,867	5,734	.....	2,867	2,867	2,867	2,867	2,867	2,867	6,895
Tobacco	70,885	68,915	5,906	6,030	5,454	6,081	5,485	4,985	5,418	5,734	6,072	6,211	5,980	6,516	6,380
Use	67,876	66,519	643	15,021	1,389	459	15,067	1,975	1,045	15,351	2,019	604	16,868	1,310	1,419
Utility	134,597	152,287	12,838	22,053	11,324	11,079	14,760	15,900	13,171	11,714	9,654	11,225	12,587	14,277	12,234
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S.[5] (1967 = 100)															
All items	288.8	298.4	301.8	302.6	303.1	303.5	305.2	306.6	307.3	308.8	309.7	310.7	311.7	313.0	314.5
Food	285.7	291.7	292.6	292.9	292.5	293.9	299.4	302.1	302.2	302.3	301.4	302.0	303.2	304.8	304.2
Housing	314.7	323.1	326.4	326.8	327.0	327.4	329.2	331.0	331.5	333.2	334.6	336.2	338.1	339.5	341.4
Fuel and utilities	350.8	370.3	376.4	374.4	371.3	370.6	376.0	383.0	380.1	380.9	385.5	390.0	393.9	395.5	397.0
Apparel and upkeep	191.8	196.5	200.4	200.7	200.7	199.3	196.4	196.2	198.8	199.2	198.9	197.4	196.6	200.1	204.2
Transportation	291.5	298.4	303.7	305.0	306.3	306.3	306.0	305.8	306.9	309.6	312.2	313.1	312.9	312.9	313.7
Medical care	328.7	357.3	361.2	362.9	364.9	366.2	369.5	373.2	374.5	375.7	376.8	378.0	380.3	381.9	383.1
Energy	416.0	419.3	429.3	425.1	419.9	418.0	416.7	420.2	418.1	421.3	426.1	428.5	428.3	427.3	429.0
Producer Price Index, U.S.[6] (1967 = 100)															
All commodities	299.3	303.1	305.3	306.0	305.5	306.1	308.0	308.9	311.0	311.3	311.5	311.3	311.9	310.9	309.5
Industrial commodities	312.3	315.7	317.1	318.5	318.3	318.4	319.1	320.6	321.9	322.6	323.2	323.8	323.9	323.5	322.3
Index of prices received by Alabama farmers (1977 = 100)	115.8	121.3	123.0	122.0	129.0	131.0	140.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	134.0	127.0	129.0	121.0	122.0
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. (1967 = $1.00)															
As measured by															
Consumer prices	.346	.335	.331	.330	.330	.329	.328	.326	.325	.324	.323	.322	.321	.319	.318
Wholesale prices	.334	.330	.328	.327	.327	.327	.325	.324	.322	.321	.321	.321	.321	.322	.323
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[7]															
Civilian labor force (1,000 workers)	1,713.0	1,744.8	1,745.3	1,774.6	1,774.9	1,732.8	1,754.8	1,759.6	1,765.8	1,777.0	1,777.0	1,794.7	1,797.2	1,786.7	1,791.5
Unemployment	247.0	235.1	214.5	220.7	223.1	197.0	238.4	227.9	218.0	197.1	185.5	195.1	212.7	196.8	198.6
Unemployment rate	14.4	13.5	12.3	12.4	12.6	11.4	13.6	13.0	12.3	11.1	10.4	10.9	11.8	11.0	11.1
Employment	1,466.0	1,509.7	1,530.8	1,553.9	1,551.8	1,535.8	1,516.4	1,531.7	1,547.8	1,579.9	1,591.5	1,599.6	1,584.5	1,589.9	1,592.9
Nonagricultural	1,312.5	1,318.4	1,326.5	1,334.8	1,336.6	1,338.8	1,324.4	1,330.2	1,333.0	1,345.7	1,348.8	1,359.5	1,348.4	1,352.8	1,347.2
Manufacturing	337.8	338.2	345.5	346.0	346.3	345.6	344.6	345.2	346.6	351.1	351.8	353.7	345.5	351.1	345.0
Durable goods	159.1	157.6	161.1	161.9	162.6	162.2	161.9	162.9	165.4	167.0	167.5	168.4	167.1	168.0	167.3
Lumber and wood products	25.1	27.6	28.7	28.6	28.4	28.3	27.8	28.2	28.8	28.9	29.0	29.0	29.2	29.4	29.0
Stone, clay, glass products	8.6	8.7	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.8	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.1	8.8
Primary metals	29.6	24.8	24.5	24.6	24.6	24.8	25.2	25.2	26.2	26.2	26.4	26.2	25.8	26.1	25.7
Blast furn. and steel works	8.8	5.7	5.2	5.3	5.5	6.1	6.6	7.1	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.2
Iron and steel foundries	11.4	10.5	10.7	10.7	10.5	9.9	10.0	9.6	10.0	10.1	10.2	10.0	9.8	10.0	10.2
Fabricated metals	22.8	21.7	22.0	22.2	22.4	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.2	22.4	22.4	22.4	22.5	22.7	22.6
Machinery (excl. electrical)	.....	14.8	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	15.6	15.9	15.9	16.1	16.4	16.3	16.2	16.5
Electrical, electronic equip.	.....	21.8	22.0	22.0	22.3	22.3	22.5	22.9	22.9	23.2	23.3	23.4	23.3	23.3	23.5
Transportation	22.6	21.5	22.0	22.6	22.7	22.4	22.5	22.6	22.9	23.3	23.4	23.9	23.9	24.1	24.2
Other durable goods	16.0	17.2	17.8	17.9	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.5	17.7	18.0	17.9	18.0	17.1	17.1	17.0
Nondurable goods	178.8	180.6	184.4	184.1	183.7	183.4	182.7	182.3	181.2	184.1	184.3	185.3	178.4	183.1	177.7
Food	26.5	26.9	27.4	27.5	27.2	27.1	26.9	26.5	26.5	26.7	26.8	27.3	27.3	27.4	27.4
Textile mill products	38.8	39.1	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.4	40.4	40.3	40.4	40.4	40.2	39.8	38.0	39.3	37.3
Apparel	53.0	54.3	56.0	55.5	55.4	55.1	54.4	54.7	53.6	55.7	56.2	56.2	50.9	54.3	51.4
Paper and allied products	21.0	21.4	21.5	21.4	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.1	20.8	21.2	21.0	21.5	21.6	21.4	21.1
Printing and publishing	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.8	10.7	10.7	10.6	10.7	10.6
Chemicals and allied products	13.1	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.0	12.0	11.9	11.9
Rubber products	13.8	14.6	15.0	15.0	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	15.7	15.9	15.9	15.8
Other nondurable goods	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2
Nonmanufacturing	974.7	980.1	981.0	988.8	990.3	993.2	979.8	985.0	986.4	994.6	997.0	1,005.8	1,002.9	1,001.7	1,002.2
Mining and quarrying	16.2	13.6	12.9	13.3	13.6	13.5	13.1	13.8	13.7	13.9	14.0	14.2	14.2	14.3	14.4
Bituminous coal mining	12.1	10.3	9.7	10.1	10.4	9.5	9.1	9.8	9.6	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.0	10.1
Contract construction	56.8	59.4	62.7	62.6	63.0	62.4	60.1	60.7	60.4	62.6	63.3	66.1	66.7	66.6	67.1
Trans., comm., and utilities	71.1	69.7	70.7	71.3	70.9	71.1	70.6	71.3	71.6	71.4	71.9	72.7	72.0	72.5	71.9
Trade	267.4	271.0	273.7	275.5	278.0	282.1	273.9	272.9	274.1	277.5	278.8	280.9	281.8	284.9	285.8
Wholesale	70.0	69.7	70.4	70.6	70.8	70.7	70.8	71.2	71.3	71.6	71.7	71.6	72.1	72.1	72.0
Retail	197.4	201.3	203.3	204.9	207.2	211.4	203.1	201.7	202.8	205.9	207.1	209.3	209.7	212.8	213.8
Finance, insurance, real estate	58.8	59.4	59.8	59.6	59.6	59.6	59.8	60.0	60.3	60.6	61.1	61.7	62.2	62.1	62.0
Service and miscellaneous	214.4	217.8	219.7	219.6	218.6	218.3	216.3	218.3	219.2	220.4	220.0	219.3	218.5	218.5	218.4
Government	290.1	289.2	281.5	286.9	286.6	286.2	286.0	288.0	287.1	288.2	287.9	290.9	287.5	282.8	282.6
Federal	65.1	64.6	64.9	64.3	64.1	64.0	63.9	63.7	63.6	63.9	64.2	64.6	64.8	65.1	65.1
State and local	224.9	224.6	216.6	222.6	222.5	222.2	222.1	224.3	223.5	224.3	223.7	226.3	222.7	217.7	217.5

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983				1984								
	1982	1983	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	176,752	207,309	17,884	14,485	14,784	11,998	17,938	16,014	16,084	14,672	17,512	18,528	20,564	20,649	16,081
Nonagricultural placements	66,900	91,100	7,499	7,117	6,071	5,114	5,741	5,509	6,477	7,082	7,314	9,582	14,871	14,203	7,719
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	632,290	428,181	24,506	27,873	28,728	35,738	75,004	29,677	28,150	24,214	25,009	23,457	50,560	37,376	29,346
Payments *($1,000)*	233,984	191,868	13,556	11,656	12,540	13,999	18,452	15,901	15,566	11,949	13,048	12,192	13,536	15,564	12,258
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	15,080	15,780	15,610	15,710	15,680	15,460	15,530	15,420	15,460	15,600	15,560	15,670	15,570	15,590	15,730
	15.0	14.1	11.8	11.6	11.7	10.8	12.7	11.3	10.5	9.7	8.9	8.8	9.1	8.6	9.4
Baldwin	33,390	33,830	33,640	33,970	33,950	33,760	34,310	34,670	34,600	34,300	33,850	34,510	35,050	34,450	36,760
	12.1	12.3	11.3	11.0	11.3	11.8	14.0	13.7	12.6	10.3	8.8	9.0	10.5	9.4	15.4
Barbour	11,510	11,980	12,040	12,090	11,800	11,520	11,610	11,660	11,580	11,920	12,030	12,040	12,010	11,990	12,150
	16.2	13.1	11.1	10.9	10.9	10.8	13.0	12.2	10.2	9.6	9.1	9.6	10.8	10.1	11.3
Bibb	5,670	5,940	5,820	5,770	5,770	5,690	6,040	5,790	5,990	5,920	5,950	6,000	5,950	5,940	5,870
	22.8	19.6	17.9	15.0	15.4	18.0	25.3	20.0	19.6	19.1	16.8	15.1	15.6	18.2	15.5
Blount	14,050	13,520	13,510	13,730	13,130	12,890	12,870	13,020	13,200	13,290	13,360	13,370	13,390	13,440	13,670
	19.9	18.1	15.2	14.2	14.7	14.0	17.1	16.8	21.0	13.6	11.6	11.7	13.0	11.5	10.8
Bullock	4,480	4,530	4,770	4,820	4,660	4,410	4,230	4,250	4,250	4,390	4,510	4,590	4,600	4,880	4,710
	18.3	17.2	15.0	14.3	14.9	15.2	16.1	14.1	13.3	11.6	11.0	14.5	17.5	20.9	14.7
Butler	9,960	9,900	9,910	10,250	9,940	9,720	9,900	9,770	9,810	9,830	9,900	9,960	10,020	9,960	10,140
	20.3	17.3	14.0	15.2	13.3	12.0	16.7	15.5	15.1	13.2	12.6	13.9	15.2	14.7	13.2
Calhoun	45,620	46,560	46,350	46,850	46,310	46,520	47,170	47,220	47,470	47,820	47,820	48,380	49,370	49,050	48,290
	15.1	13.1	10.9	11.5	10.8	11.3	12.9	12.2	11.7	10.0	9.5	9.9	13.2	11.4	10.2
Chambers	16,280	16,920	16,790	17,070	16,880	16,760	16,760	16,850	16,950	17,050	17,160	17,220	17,280	16,960	16,780
	11.3	9.8	7.8	8.7	8.3	7.8	8.8	9.3	8.8	8.9	9.9	10.1	11.1	9.3	8.6
Cherokee	11,390	11,400	11,600	11,770	11,430	10,860	11,090	11,110	11,120	11,680	11,640	11,040	11,590	12,080	12,260
	14.8	15.4	9.7	13.4	10.2	11.1	14.5	17.4	20.8	11.3	11.2	18.8	18.5	8.9	8.5
Chilton	13,450	15,420	15,580	15,820	15,640	15,360	15,490	15,540	15,650	15,710	15,880	16,060	15,930	15,940	15,850
	15.6	13.3	10.9	10.3	10.7	10.5	12.7	11.7	11.7	11.1	10.4	10.7	11.6	11.6	10.8
Choctaw	5,280	5,560	5,430	5,510	5,440	5,500	5,610	5,650	5,660	5,650	5,670	5,530	5,790	5,630	5,960
	15.3	15.2	12.9	12.6	11.4	12.8	15.2	16.1	15.9	13.8	14.7	13.8	18.4	14.6	22.6
Clarke	10,450	10,810	10,580	10,620	10,580	10,560	10,870	10,680	10,780	10,640	10,650	10,720	10,970	10,700	10,920
	15.9	16.2	13.4	13.2	13.6	13.8	15.9	14.9	13.8	12.7	12.7	12.8	15.2	13.3	20.1
Clay	7,400	7,520	7,590	7,690	7,670	7,510	7,650	7,670	7,840	7,950	7,930	7,890	7,860	7,950	7,980
	13.5	13.8	11.8	11.3	11.3	10.7	12.3	11.8	10.8	9.8	10.3	10.7	11.2	11.3	10.1
Cleburne	5,080	5,210	5,290	5,280	5,190	5,160	5,090	5,100	5,130	5,150	5,120	5,280	5,500	5,190	5,200
	14.5	12.5	10.0	9.6	9.7	9.7	11.2	10.9	10.8	8.7	8.4	9.9	14.0	9.8	8.0
Coffee	19,410	20,040	20,440	20,340	20,020	19,700	19,430	20,030	20,030	20,120	20,240	20,160	20,180	20,050	20,150
	11.8	10.8	8.8	8.5	8.9	9.6	10.2	10.5	9.8	8.1	8.2	8.2	9.0	8.2	8.4
Colbert	23,620	24,050	23,600	23,710	23,500	23,520	23,760	24,310	24,140	24,310	23,880	24,060	24,020	23,910	23,820
	19.0	18.5	16.4	15.8	15.3	15.5	19.0	20.1	18.3	17.8	16.0	16.2	17.1	15.8	15.6
Conecuh	6,820	7,010	7,100	7,060	6,970	7,120	7,050	7,010	7,130	7,260	7,370	7,360	7,280	7,160	7,800
	13.9	12.7	12.6	11.7	12.3	13.7	13.7	14.1	12.6	11.1	10.0	10.6	11.5	9.7	14.8
Coosa	5,630	5,570	5,590	5,610	5,600	5,520	5,510	5,520	5,460	5,610	5,580	5,500	5,540	5,620	5,770
	10.8	10.3	8.1	7.7	8.2	7.8	9.0	8.8	7.8	7.5	6.5	7.9	7.8	8.4	8.9
Covington	15,630	16,340	16,590	16,580	16,500	16,160	16,280	16,570	16,360	16,370	16,370	16,310	16,290	16,380	16,150
	13.5	12.3	10.9	10.3	11.1	11.3	12.8	13.4	11.6	10.1	9.0	9.2	10.8	9.7	8.2
Crenshaw	6,830	7,220	7,570	7,640	7,250	6,820	6,750	6,810	6,920	7,170	7,440	7,220	7,100	7,210	7,700
	13.8	12.1	9.9	8.6	8.3	8.6	12.5	11.9	12.7	10.3	10.6	10.0	11.0	10.1	16.9
Cullman	27,400	28,710	29,050	29,480	28,830	28,050	28,430	28,700	29,070	29,160	29,300	29,220	29,070	29,740	29,700
	17.2	14.7	11.9	11.1	10.9	10.7	14.2	14.6	12.9	10.6	9.6	10.1	11.1	12.3	9.6
Dale	12,410	12,980	12,760	13,110	12,890	12,630	12,760	12,780	12,980	12,980	13,080	13,040	13,180	13,010	13,130
	13.1	13.7	11.6	11.8	12.1	11.5	12.8	13.3	13.7	11.4	11.0	11.0	13.4	11.1	10.4
Dallas	23,870	23,640	23,440	23,540	23,370	22,910	23,360	23,400	23,260	23,480	23,220	23,700	23,780	23,920	23,810
	17.3	17.5	15.5	15.2	15.3	14.7	17.0	16.6	15.6	15.5	14.3	15.2	16.5	17.2	16.2
DeKalb	28,460	29,950	30,100	30,200	29,530	28,890	29,440	29,310	29,580	30,100	30,290	30,670	31,270	30,900	30,300
	13.4	13.8	12.1	13.0	12.3	11.6	14.5	12.7	12.0	10.8	10.1	10.6	11.4	9.9	10.1
Elmore	19,880	20,770	20,680	20,780	20,570	20,250	20,170	20,220	20,390	20,570	20,670	20,860	20,700	20,720	20,750
	13.3	12.2	10.4	10.1	9.5	8.4	9.6	9.1	8.8	8.0	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.5	7.6
Escambia	16,470	17,430	17,340	17,360	17,410	17,440	17,560	17,610	17,420	17,610	17,680	17,770	17,660	17,520	18,040
	13.2	12.6	11.3	11.3	12.1	12.6	14.3	13.5	11.8	11.3	11.3	10.8	11.4	10.6	17.8
Etowah	42,720	42,450	41,440	41,890	41,720	41,370	41,660	41,700	41,500	41,810	41,700	42,230	42,870	42,900	42,780
	20.5	17.5	14.0	14.0	14.2	13.5	15.8	15.3	14.3	13.4	11.7	11.6	13.6	13.3	13.3
Fayette	9,830	10,170	10,330	10,450	10,310	10,160	10,160	10,170	10,340	10,490	10,550	10,540	10,530	10,580	10,670
	11.4	11.7	10.7	9.6	9.4	9.7	10.5	9.7	9.9	8.9	8.1	8.7	9.8	10.3	9.0
Franklin	13,310	14,200	14,500	14,440	14,320	14,010	15,060	15,190	15,390	14,930	14,910	14,830	15,100	14,760	14,490
	18.4	18.2	15.9	15.5	16.6	16.6	25.7	23.0	22.1	18.3	17.2	15.9	21.6	17.9	16.6
Geneva	10,800	11,400	11,570	11,950	11,600	11,470	11,330	11,320	11,430	11,670	11,830	11,940	11,760	11,870	12,050
	11.4	10.5	8.5	8.3	8.3	9.4	10.2	9.4	8.9	8.4	7.7	7.5	9.8	7.3	6.8
Greene	4,560	4,610	4,560	4,590	4,480	4,420	4,610	4,700	4,640	4,780	4,730	4,680	4,690	4,720	4,870
	17.0	16.7	13.3	12.7	13.5	15.4	21.5	21.4	17.7	16.8	14.6	15.5	16.4	16.5	18.8
Hale	4,980	5,310	5,360	5,460	5,340	5,270	5,380	5,310	5,310	5,450	5,440	5,510	5,570	5,450	5,510
	20.7	16.6	13.0	12.8	14.8	18.2	22.6	19.6	17.9	16.8	15.0	16.3	21.2	17.8	17.2
Henry	7,010	7,260	7,480	7,670	7,410	7,140	7,020	7,100	7,050	7,390	7,540	7,350	7,240	7,310	7,630
	12.2	11.2	10.0	9.1	9.3	9.4	11.5	10.2	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.8	10.6	9.9	9.8
Houston	39,040	40,070	40,720	41,050	40,160	39,630	39,610	39,840	40,080	40,770	41,060	41,290	41,010	40,490	41,130
	10.0	10.8	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.4	9.4	8.9	8.6	8.7	8.7	10.3	8.3	8.5
Jackson	21,080	20,800	20,690	20,980	20,320	19,980	19,810	19,930	19,660	19,640	19,440	19,200	19,940	19,140	19,030
	20.4	22.0	18.8	19.5	19.0	20.7	22.0	21.8	19.3	16.4	14.5	15.7	22.0	16.1	14.5
Jefferson	306,120	310,270	308,350	307,640	305,340	303,270	306,020	305,750	308,780	310,420	309,110	313,030	313,360	309,560	308,870
	13.8	12.8	11.6	10.8	10.7	10.1	11.6	10.7	10.9	9.9	9.2	9.4	9.8	9.5	9.1
Lamar	8,330	8,820	8,780	8,960	8,900	8,730	8,830	8,940	8,980	9,100	9,060	9,270	9,180	9,090	9,090
	13.5	9.8	8.2	7.9	8.4	7.3	8.9	8.2	7.5	7.5	7.2	8.6	9.2	7.7	7.4
Lauderdale	34,260	34,810	34,370	34,610	34,220	34,350	34,800	35,380	35,280	34,890	34,530	34,910	35,120	35,040	34,750
	17.5	16.9	15.2	14.8	14.0	14.5	18.3	18.8	17.4	15.4	14.2	14.7	16.2	15.1	14.6
Lawrence	14,310	14,490	13,910	13,990	13,680	13,380	13,650	13,720	13,660	13,870	13,880	13,730	13,790	13,520	13,520
	18.9	18.7	16.2	15.7	16.0	16.9	19.1	18.9	16.8	16.3	15.5	14.4	15.3	13.8	13.6
Lee	34,330	36,140	36,370	37,120	36,770	35,890	36,440	36,770	36,650	37,140	37,420	37,650	36,470	36,560	36,460
	9.4	8.4	7.2	6.9	6.5	6.0	7.3	7.2	6.4	6.6	6.2	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.2
Limestone	22,840	23,940	24,200	24,180	24,040	23,780	24,290	24,430	24,300	24,780	24,770	24,940	24,900	25,340	25,300
	13.6	11.0	9.0	8.6	9.0	8.5	11.2	11.1	9.7	9.6	8.5	8.5	9.0	9.3	8.3
Lowndes	4,960	5,320	5,490	5,560	5,420	5,290	5,260	5,270	5,180	5,390	5,360	5,300	5,290	5,340	5,380
	19.2	17.6	16.0	16.0	14.0	14.3	19.3	18.3	17.7	19.7	17.7	18.6	20.3	19.9	18.6
Macon	7,820	8,000	8,030	8,090	7,800	7,760	7,810	7,810	7,780	7,930	8,000	8,360	8,220	8,220	8,380
	14.9	13.5	11.4	11.2	11.1	11.4	12.7	11.9	10.6	10.5	9.6	13.9	14.3	14.2	11.5
Madison	94,570	100,410	102,490	103,030	102,090	100,970	102,220	102,160	104,170	104,170	104,860	105,950	104,940	106,220	106,590
	10.7	9.2	8.0	8.1	8.2	7.7	9.7	9.0	9.8	7.9	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.4	6.8
Marengo	9,690	9,920	9,790	9,660	9,790	9,640	9,860	9,800	9,970	9,960	9,960	10,260	10,430	10,120	10,570
	15.4	15.4	12.2	11.7	12.1	12.9	15.0	14.2	15.0	12.7	11.7	12.7	15.6	12.2	20.0
Marion	13,300	13,760	13,490	13,500	13,580	13,250	13,550	13,490	13,490	13,420	13,320	13,390	13,490	13,480	13,380
	18.3	19.4	16.2	16.1	17.7	15.6	18.6	17.6	16.4	14.2	12.3	11.6	13.9	15.3	14.4
Marshall	33,020	34,920	35,200	35,260	35,020	34,960	35,930	36,000	35,470	35,910	35,770	36,400	36,390	36,520	36,890
	14.8	13.0	10.8	10.6	10.9	11.2	14.4	14.0	11.8	11.0	9.6	10.5	15.8	10.3	10.3
Mobile	158,750	163,820	163,240	163,950	161,260	158,890	163,040	163,710	164,260	164,740	164,340	167,090	167,440	166,180	164,300
	14.0	15.9	15.1	14.3	13.3	12.9	15.9	15.1	14.5	13.3	12.8	12.7	12.9	12.7	12.1

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983				1984								
	1982	1983	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)* —continued															
Monroe	10,360	10,770	10,820	10,950	10,980	10,900	10,940	10,950	10,900	11,010	10,840	11,060	11,020	11,050	12,640
	14.2	12.6	10.9	11.7	12.6	12.4	15.6	14.9	13.4	12.6	10.1	12.5	12.7	12.1	32.8
Montgomery	88,090	92,650	93,230	94,230	93,970	92,810	92,730	93,380	93,460	94,480	94,540	96,350	95,770	95,700	95,070
	11.1	10.6	9.8	10.0	10.0	9.3	10.7	10.6	9.6	9.0	8.4	9.4	9.7	9.0	8.4
Morgan	37,450	37,990	37,970	37,960	37,520	37,080	37,630	37,490	37,810	38,060	38,070	38,590	38,390	37,870	38,010
	16.1	14.5	13.0	12.8	12.4	11.9	14.5	13.6	13.7	12.4	11.6	12.0	12.5	11.5	11.6
Perry	5,690	5,860	5,910	5,950	5,870	5,780	5,840	5,690	5,660	5,730	5,780	5,910	5,860	5,900	5,930
	15.7	14.8	11.6	11.2	15.7	19.2	22.4	15.1	12.1	10.8	10.0	10.4	12.5	12.2	11.1
Pickens	7,550	7,630	7,590	7,650	7,510	7,600	7,500	7,540	7,450	7,590	7,730	7,790	7,700	7,670	7,620
	19.7	17.7	14.4	14.2	13.3	16.3	17.9	17.3	15.8	15.2	16.4	15.2	15.7	15.3	13.2
Pike	13,260	13,770	13,710	14,370	13,890	12,960	13,360	13,420	13,590	13,680	13,870	13,890	13,620	13,500	13,520
	13.4	13.7	11.9	10.6	10.8	11.9	12.0	11.8	12.0	9.6	8.9	9.9	10.6	10.5	10.4
Randolph	9,710	9,170	8,880	9,310	9,050	8,950	8,890	8,830	8,780	8,820	8,880	8,650	9,240	8,830	8,780
	21.7	17.8	12.7	12.1	12.7	13.8	18.0	16.2	15.9	13.1	12.9	14.0	22.0	16.9	15.5
Russell	17,990	18,320	18,080	18,230	18,190	18,210	19,480	18,890	18,560	18,790	18,930	20,370	19,660	19,290	19,050
	16.7	13.7	11.7	11.6	11.2	11.5	17.9	14.3	12.1	11.8	11.9	17.0	13.7	11.1	11.0
St. Clair	18,980	19,350	19,090	19,070	19,100	19,280	19,310	19,470	19,030	19,280	19,110	19,330	19,280	19,210	19,660
	14.7	14.2	12.4	11.7	12.4	13.2	14.0	13.9	11.3	10.9	9.8	9.9	9.9	10.5	12.3
Shelby	29,940	30,510	30,380	30,570	30,230	30,220	30,890	30,650	30,300	30,740	30,910	31,490	31,510	30,920	30,580
	13.0	12.4	11.4	11.4	10.9	10.9	13.6	12.1	10.3	10.1	10.3	11.0	11.4	10.5	9.4
Sumter	6,810	6,990	6,900	7,100	7,110	6,850	7,060	7,040	7,170	7,220	7,180	7,360	7,330	7,300	7,340
	17.7	14.3	10.6	11.1	11.8	9.9	12.2	11.1	12.0	13.3	10.1	13.2	13.5	12.7	10.9
Talladega	30,840	32,030	32,240	32,440	31,670	31,300	31,730	31,670	31,920	32,210	31,900	32,680	32,130	32,380	33,090
	19.2	17.1	14.8	14.2	13.5	13.0	15.0	14.6	14.7	14.5	13.5	15.1	15.0	16.2	20.1
Tallapoosa	16,900	16,580	16,510	16,660	16,560	16,620	16,850	16,970	17,080	17,220	17,160	17,620	17,400	17,620	17,160
	13.5	12.2	9.8	10.3	9.6	9.9	10.6	10.2	9.8	8.7	8.0	9.3	9.7	10.3	8.9
Tuscaloosa	55,530	56,520	55,900	56,800	56,540	56,400	56,910	57,500	58,020	58,090	58,180	57,710	57,230	57,660	58,130
	12.6	12.5	10.9	10.9	10.5	10.3	11.8	11.2	11.1	9.7	10.3	10.1	10.3	10.2	9.0
Walker	31,760	32,980	32,630	33,300	32,910	33,020	33,440	33,350	33,330	32,570	32,520	32,570	32,700	32,390	32,350
	15.0	16.1	14.6	15.7	15.2	15.6	17.3	16.3	15.5	12.1	11.7	10.9	11.6	11.5	11.3
Washington	6,200	6,380	6,530	6,500	6,340	6,210	6,330	6,400	6,550	6,510	6,770	6,610	6,770	6,540	6,880
	16.9	20.0	17.5	16.4	15.8	15.7	17.8	18.1	18.0	16.1	18.5	17.2	21.6	18.3	20.8
Wilcox	6,380	5,860	5,590	5,680	5,490	5,320	5,340	5,380	5,230	5,340	5,410	5,420	5,360	5,300	5,300
	18.7	20.3	18.3	18.1	17.6	17.1	18.8	18.0	17.2	16.1	16.0	16.6	18.0	16.4	15.5
Winston	8,480	9,150	9,170	9,290	9,170	8,960	9,570	9,850	9,450	9,450	9,500	9,400	9,310	9,260	9,300
	22.5	18.6	14.8	15.3	16.2	16.5	23.4	25.8	20.0	17.9	18.4	16.2	17.4	17.5	17.0
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value *($1,000)*	551,093	643,182	22,392	85,365	50,213	46,894	51,145	40,064	53,684	72,261	83,186	44,217	90,034	54,364	68,859
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	8,142	6,288	430	826	757	423	583	508	232	718	905	769	988	1,019	1,032
Exports															
Value *($1,000)*	1,222,158	788,611	51,981	64,610	81,993	64,282	69,760	39,449	46,631	32,516	60,111	47,488	31,808	44,217	42,139
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	14,577	9,496	524	547	546	868	1,731	1,283	1,667	2,096	1,930	1,915	1,292	2,293	1,719
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[a] *(1,000 tons)*	39,655	34,916	2,812	2,948	3,118	2,653	3,017	2,522	3,015	3,110	3,266	3,413	3,307	3,549	3,362
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	22,680	23,017	2,547	1,798	1,588	1,884	2,494	2,093	1,793	1,604	1,607	1,968	2,445	2,384	2,339
Gasoline sales[b] *(1,000 gallons)*	1,840,396	1,861,406	153,217	153,174	148,354	168,460	150,958	141,858	162,105	162,606	162,470	161,968	163,798	168,845	150,779
New passenger car registrations[c] *(number)*	100,717	122,393	11,288	10,378	10,295	11,751	10,453	11,116	11,051	11,616	13,890	12,648	12,806	12,579	10,981
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals[c] *($1,000,000)*															
Food							288	281	305	305	301	303	312	292	308
General stores with food and gas							13	12	14	15	15	16	15	15	14
General merchandise							157	144	176	191	191	196	176	190	179
Apparel							35	34	46	52	45	47	41	48	43
Furniture, furnishings, etc.							41	40	44	43	44	45	46	45	42
Automotive							211	234	275	259	281	288	268	280	237
Gasoline service stations							22	22	25	25	26	26	26	26	23
Lumber and building materials							55	61	73	77	81	82	79	80	78
Hardware and farm implements							23	29	37	39	40	40	37	38	36
Eating places							95	97	112	102	104	106	111	115	105
Drug stores							22	21	21	21	24	25	19	21	20
All other retail							153	156	173	175	176	181	168	182	171
Total sales by retail concerns							1,113	1,130	1,302	1,304	1,329	1,354	1,299	1,332	1,256
Nonretail and unclassified concerns							190	187	213	216	228	227	217	227	230
Total all sales at retail							1,304	1,318	1,516	1,520	1,557	1,581	1,516	1,559	1,486
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[c] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston							36,218	36,364	42,586	42,243	43,081	43,669	41,868	42,602	41,124
Birmingham							347,386	363,490	421,258	417,065	429,458	433,730	416,412	438,937	418,675
Dothan							43,786	47,674	53,482	52,859	55,999	57,201	53,756	54,241	49,857
Florence							42,222	43,478	50,265	51,026	51,570	52,256	50,824	51,928	48,545
Gadsden							32,540	32,361	37,607	38,361	38,946	39,480	41,686	40,722	36,766
Huntsville							74,343	77,028	85,494	85,653	87,982	88,958	86,240	89,472	83,710
Mobile							149,187	150,641	173,136	177,406	179,575	185,800	178,791	168,223	165,969
Montgomery							99,258	102,831	116,567	117,030	122,654	124,701	119,509	121,529	116,396
Tuscaloosa							47,063	45,373	51,856	50,659	52,058	53,309	50,986	55,195	52,597
Counties															
Autauga							6,750	6,981	7,965	8,236	8,135	8,431	8,413	8,185	7,992
Baldwin							22,302	24,507	28,073	28,689	30,045	30,895	31,064	30,203	26,103
Barbour							4,943	4,784	5,878	5,893	6,202	6,334	6,182	6,575	5,416
Bibb							2,797	2,970	3,282	3,314	3,674	3,711	3,266	3,619	3,218
Blount							6,051	6,128	6,974	7,144	7,739	7,913	7,425	8,027	7,264
Bullock							2,107	2,142	2,143	2,123	1,977	2,001	2,013	2,076	2,146
Butler							5,521	4,604	5,446	5,552	5,363	5,472	5,660	5,666	5,510
Calhoun							36,218	36,364	42,586	42,243	43,081	43,669	41,868	42,602	41,124
Chambers							8,075	7,885	9,214	9,078	9,382	8,912	8,890	8,786	8,389
Cherokee							3,446	3,634	3,913	4,128	4,340	4,421	3,847	4,137	3,816
Chilton							6,947	7,004	8,129	8,266	8,492	8,630	7,996	8,420	7,704
Choctaw							2,995	2,759	3,203	3,039	2,922	3,006	3,092	3,167	2,666
Clarke							6,232	7,229	8,280	8,615	7,847	7,955	7,631	7,935	8,092
Clay							1,884	1,877	2,294	2,220	2,239	2,285	2,162	2,254	2,162
Cleburne							1,686	1,611	1,937	1,951	1,986	2,000	2,091	1,897	1,537
Coffee							13,469	14,295	16,957	16,213	16,486	16,268	14,943	15,227	14,005

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983				1984								
	1982	1983	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales, MSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Colbert							17,564	18,128	20,907	21,049	21,732	22,013	21,420	21,491	19,688
Conecuh							2,505	2,723	3,441	3,132	3,069	3,034	2,968	2,829	4,221
Coosa							619	525	723	714	700	671	753	807	777
Covington							9,580	10,588	12,103	11,547	11,608	11,815	11,212	11,610	10,363
Crenshaw							2,377	2,302	2,509	2,537	2,529	2,574	2,449	2,333	2,147
Cullman							15,925	16,817	19,756	19,999	20,181	20,928	19,954	19,828	18,948
Dale							7,035	7,619	8,766	8,492	8,847	8,984	8,926	8,595	8,585
Dallas							14,219	14,086	16,687	16,507	17,213	17,300	16,132	16,223	15,271
DeKalb							13,348	13,021	13,813	14,701	15,505	15,828	14,949	15,452	14,770
Elmore							7,196	7,516	8,428	8,221	8,865	9,042	8,613	8,963	8,622
Escambia							9,860	10,622	12,089	12,450	11,746	11,904	11,377	11,495	11,074
Etowah							32,540	32,361	37,607	38,361	38,946	39,480	41,686	40,722	36,766
Fayette							4,728	4,969	5,815	5,400	5,682	5,751	4,955	5,271	5,696
Franklin							6,715	7,347	8,516	8,423	8,434	8,631	8,130	8,462	8,139
Geneva							10,841	11,558	11,995	12,075	12,455	12,502	11,637	11,831	11,697
Greene							1,270	1,281	1,564	1,492	1,614	1,635	2,058	1,579	1,328
Hale							2,239	2,395	2,767	2,573	2,805	2,850	2,525	2,765	2,553
Henry							2,323	2,464	3,030	3,011	2,956	3,011	2,946	2,984	3,210
Houston							36,751	40,055	44,716	44,367	47,152	48,217	44,830	45,646	41,272
Jackson							9,259	9,452	10,927	10,913	11,321	11,633	11,226	12,604	10,930
Jefferson							294,780	309,863	360,052	355,168	362,856	366,383	352,510	372,524	357,578
Lamar							2,691	2,901	3,797	3,127	3,428	3,462	3,118	3,063	2,825
Lauderdale							24,658	25,350	29,358	29,977	29,838	30,243	29,404	30,437	28,857
Lawrence							3,647	3,475	4,135	4,216	4,585	4,664	4,098	4,413	4,179
Lee							24,947	24,852	28,202	28,136	29,204	29,581	27,992	28,966	29,850
Limestone							11,168	11,418	13,548	13,572	14,077	14,358	13,104	13,821	13,334
Lowndes							1,280	1,215	1,337	1,380	1,462	1,480	1,333	1,355	1,338
Macon							3,851	3,179	3,476	3,651	3,754	3,835	3,760	4,249	3,921
Madison							74,343	77,028	85,494	85,653	87,982	88,958	86,240	89,472	83,710
Marengo							5,549	5,112	5,667	5,439	5,510	5,626	5,220	5,594	5,231
Marion							6,860	7,017	8,213	7,471	7,916	8,112	7,776	7,960	7,549
Marshall							22,754	23,968	27,928	28,111	29,288	29,747	28,104	29,445	27,208
Mobile							126,885	126,134	145,063	148,717	149,530	154,905	147,727	138,020	139,866
Monroe							6,164	6,518	8,373	7,656	7,711	7,943	7,712	9,941	8,575
Montgomery							85,312	88,334	100,174	100,573	105,654	107,228	102,483	104,381	99,782
Morgan							30,390	31,377	36,643	37,601	38,520	39,120	36,354	38,595	36,308
Perry							1,631	1,870	2,145	2,028	2,148	2,168	2,091	2,305	2,362
Pickens							2,964	2,925	3,487	3,624	3,638	3,686	3,445	3,553	3,283
Pike							6,442	6,699	7,666	7,344	7,524	7,471	7,108	7,843	7,312
Randolph							5,135	4,639	4,898	4,441	4,784	4,858	4,642	4,409	4,620
Russell							8,176	8,980	10,008	9,961	10,376	10,403	10,367	10,704	9,466
St. Clair							8,317	9,182	10,380	9,984	10,751	10,935	10,078	10,201	10,025
Shelby							17,848	17,886	21,005	20,782	22,707	22,932	21,878	23,094	20,052
Sumter							2,342	2,163	2,866	2,444	2,410	2,508	2,528	2,531	2,357
Talladega							17,279	17,186	19,187	20,290	22,797	21,288	20,182	19,461	18,196
Tallapoosa							9,468	9,637	10,653	11,074	11,406	11,589	10,625	10,306	9,533
Tuscaloosa							47,063	45,373	51,856	50,659	52,058	53,309	50,986	55,195	52,597
Walker							20,390	20,431	22,847	23,987	25,405	25,567	24,521	25,091	23,756
Washington							1,575	1,619	1,720	1,825	1,931	1,968	1,691	2,001	1,754
Wilcox							2,385	2,092	2,419	2,249	2,406	2,466	2,352	2,296	2,178
Winston							4,972	5,188	6,009	6,159	6,431	6,437	5,726	5,895	5,871
Statewide[1]							84,042	63,297	74,532	79,815	75,441	77,908	76,019	81,501	79,148
BUILDING PERMITS[2]															
Alabama															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	712,696	1,079,085	96,165	86,676	162,881	76,349	65,449	75,497	99,328	193,079	97,366	115,116	99,776	147,117	80,497
Residential	237,082	449,881	34,835	43,819	42,063	27,533	24,927	38,376	39,447	46,811	38,102	43,568	36,909	42,389	33,332
Nonresidential	300,343	366,127	29,816	19,695	95,659	33,868	22,711	21,524	32,351	130,709	42,724	53,582	44,597	79,263	27,171
In selected cities															
Anniston															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	5,965	8,848	794	818	718	693	595	644	790	788	915	842	833	749	694
Residential	2,700	3,593	263	268	261	231	247	255	317	317	408	324	322	317	248
Nonresidential	442	932	106	109	101	81	75	93	126	113	117	139	104	92	90
Birmingham															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	109,048	213,343	30,767	9,844	83,104	6,605	5,689	4,413	8,945	7,619	5,562	8,258	8,169	14,214	10,005
Residential	13,918	31,921	2,529	4,275	904	885	1,100	1,574	2,100	2,551	814	1,299	763	1,285	1,271
Nonresidential	61,839	108,370	12,498	767	70,397	526	985	530	1,071	90	768	2,963	2,369	1,967	3,606
Decatur															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	8,551	14,095	1,424	1,278	1,004	789	912	1,111	1,075	1,106	1,520	1,342	1,909	2,170	1,767
Residential	2,937	7,340	995	862	663	267	673	845	739	739	1,096	925	1,080	1,357	1,053
Nonresidential	3,812	2,156	156	140	116	32	73	81	115	139	172	171	355	429	318
Dothan															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	28,821	18,943	700	3,402	2,191	2,952	1,075	1,064	1,568	1,353	1,326	1,514	901	1,599	1,344
Residential	5,626	7,760	316	2,412	805	351	444	631	685	695	448	759	182	226	370
Nonresidential	9,720	6,339	40	367	1,127	2,146	457	100	452	518	238	257	125	641	666
Gadsden															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	10,429	13,596	549	550	1,389	1,189	656	530	214	565	1,351	865	166	260	886
Residential	1,517	2,006	224	329	75	61	110	57	92	347	976	219	26	74	46
Nonresidential	3,271	3,912	271	201	1,283	1,104	24	452	102	163	122	493	101	143	813
Huntsville															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	58,302	122,759	8,823	20,834	9,742	6,919	6,115	16,817	12,836	8,111	13,997	13,853	14,007	14,163	6,626
Residential	18,311	51,350	2,171	10,578	1,598	1,939	2,203	7,732	4,874	4,843	3,753	6,032	3,331	6,078	2,825
Nonresidential	14,238	45,128	5,166	3,320	5,238	3,809	2,270	5,358	7,169	2,413	8,366	5,970	9,394	6,045	3,339
Mobile															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	83,675	109,508	5,161	6,093	8,760	10,475	3,718	5,366	17,080	116,254	6,250	36,928	6,707	4,020	6,484
Residential	19,544	38,261	1,127	990	1,586	7,313	984	1,470	1,424	2,639	2,009	6,935	3,208	1,071	1,201
Nonresidential	43,701	49,663	1,465	2,188	5,173	2,058	1,419	2,488	4,160	112,221	3,331	28,665	2,127	1,153	3,886

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1983				1984								
	1982	1983	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
BUILDING ACTIVITY —CONTINUED															
Montgomery															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	52,352	76,984	6,315	6,326	5,764	5,127	14,164	5,100	6,477	6,330	6,994	7,007	8,192	8,070	7,254
Residential	15,363	32,619	2,081	2,108	2,278	1,874	2,436	2,131	2,462	2,509	2,493	2,528	3,504	3,361	2,991
Nonresidential	22,178	28,264	2,652	2,596	2,170	1,856	9,934	1,882	2,727	2,496	3,043	3,059	3,719	3,896	3,407
Quad-Cities[11]															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	18,563	12,978	1,250	852	1,360	609	2,642	1,410	4,666	2,443	4,910	1,260	2,227	1,799	2,246
Residential	7,481	6,391	623	428	874	166	480	754	1,298	700	792	323	633	721	533
Nonresidential	5,722	3,506	380	337	123	100	207	565	3,031	1,079	3,887	614	1,265	160	196
Selma															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	2,757	4,197	901	67	98	356	1,826	213	219	1,019	356	158	994	184	819
Residential	987	357	.....	.....	65	20	.....	.....	24	87	82	117	148	75	.....
Nonresidential	1,739	798	18	30	1	.....	3	133	36	717	35	.....	7	.....	617
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	21,418	30,159	3,777	1,814	1,809	613	1,505	2,647	3,328	1,804	4,323	4,183	1,719	2,805	2,463
Residential	6,592	14,849	1,378	396	717	407	1,032	1,163	2,097	988	2,153	1,284	737	1,634	1,356
Nonresidential	8,408	6,227	711	527	599	3	132	929	573	277	1,529	1,901	615	360	552

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. [e]Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

[1]Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

[2]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of F. W. Dodge Div., McGraw-Hill Information Co.

[3]End-of-month balance.

[4]Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition.

[5]These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data.

[6]Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

[7]Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

[8]Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

[9]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R. L. Polk and Company.

[10]Retail sales data represent sales at retail **which are subject to sales tax** as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the *Census of Retail Trade*. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figure for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.**

[11]Represents permits issued by selected permit-issuing places. Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census. "Reported value" includes additions and alterations and is not a sum of residential and nonresidential.

[12]Quad-Cities and consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

CBER Staff Appointments Announced

Two members of the Center for Business and Economic Research staff received promotions and a third resigned during January. Deborah Hamilton and Annette Watters were appointed as Assistant Directors. The appointments were made to fill the void left by the resignation of Edward P. Rutledge as Associate Director and Alabama State Data Center Manager.

In their new roles, Ms. Hamilton will be responsible for the maintenance and management of all computer-based resources and personnel, and Ms. Watters will be responsible for all reference services. Ms. Watters also was named Manager of the State Data Center. Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Watters, both serving CBER as Research Associates prior to their new appointments, combine fourteen years of professional staff service at the University of Alabama.

Rutledge, whose resignation came after eighteen years' service to the University, left to pursue career interests elsewhere.

alabama business

College of Commerce and Business Administration
Herbert H. "Bill" Mitchell, *Dean*

Center for Business and Economic Research
Carl E. Ferguson, Jr., *Director*

Alabama Business is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research of The University of Alabama College of Commerce and Business Administration. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

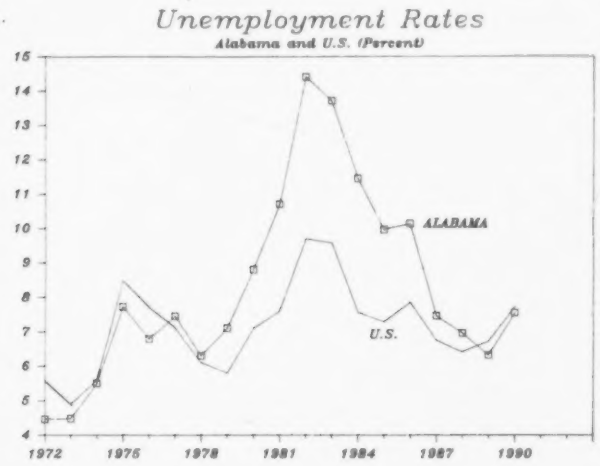
Deborah Hamilton, *Assistant Director*
Annette Watters, *Assistant Director*
David C. Cheng, *Research Economist*
Steve C. Fowler, *Research Associate & Editor*
Carroll Greenhill, *Research Assistant*
Kathryn Rivers, *Research Assistant*
Dana Stone, *Research Assistant*
Linda Davidson, *Staff Assistant*
Sandy Cromer, *Supervisor, Word Processing*
Melissa Tierce, *Statistical Data Clerk*
Eunice Ugonabo, *Clerk Typist*
Teresa Welch, *Clerk Typist*

The Outlook for the Alabama Economy

(Continued from Page 2)

munications. Although declining substantially Alabama's unemployment rate is forecasted to remain above the U.S. jobless rate at least through 1988 as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3



Personal Income

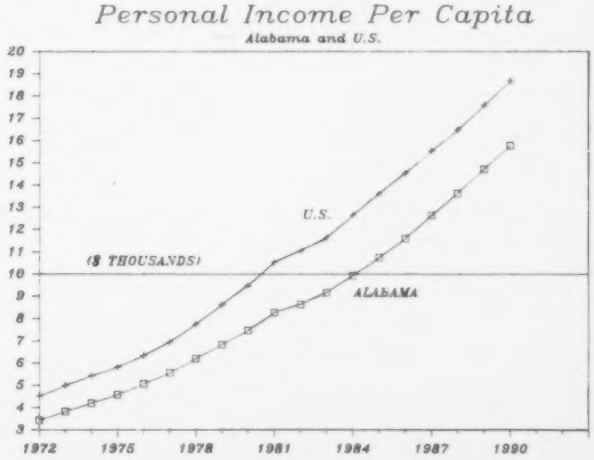
While Alabama experienced growth in per capita personal income during the 1970s, the rate of growth was below the U.S. average. In 1978, Alabama per capita personal income equalled 80 percent of the national average. In 1979, a period of decline in the ratio began which is not projected to bottom out until 1984, when Alabama per capita personal income is estimated to be 78.5 percent of the national figure. The 1978 per capita personal income ratio of 80.0 percent is not expected to be achieved again until 1986, when the ratio will equal 79.8 percent, according to the forecast. While the Alabama per capita personal income ratio is projected to steadily increase above 80 percent during 1987 through 1990 and approach 85 percent in 1990, it should remain below the national average. This is illustrated in figures 2 and 4.

During the period 1979 through 1983, personal income in Alabama sustained substantial growth in all categories except farm proprietors' income, which experienced a 10.4 percent decrease in comparison to a 32.2 percent decrease for the U.S. In all other income categories for which U.S. growth rates are available (nonfarm proprietors; other labor; dividend, interest; and transfer payments), Alabama experienced larger growth rates than the U.S. except in transfer payments, where Alabama sustained 59.7 percent growth in comparison to 61.3 percent for the United States.

Total personal income increased 40.6 percent and total disposable income increased 42 percent during 1979 through 1983. This accelerated growth trend is projected to continue throughout the forecast period 1984 through 1990, with total personal income projected to increase 67.8 percent.

By income categories, Alabama's growth is expected to range from 36.2 percent for farm proprietors to 93.0 percent for contributions for social insurance during 1984 through 1990. Within the income categories for which growth rates for the U.S. are available, Alabama is projected to remain slightly above the nation as a whole. Only in farm proprietors' income does Alabama present a significantly larger increase--36.2 percent in comparison to 13.3 percent for the U.S. Alabama per capita personal income and per capita disposable income are projected to increase 58.7 percent and 54.0 percent respectively during 1984 through 1990.

Figure 4



alabama business

Center for Business
and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
P.O. Box AK
University, Alabama 35486

Non-Profit Blk. Rt.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 16
University, AL 35486

Address correction requested

CIS/SRI
MS. CHERYL WALDMAN
4520 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MD 20814